



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Ref: S&C-02-10

DATE: December 20, 2001

FROM: Director
Survey and Certification Group
Center for Medicaid and State Operations

SUBJECT: Comparative Surveys for Fiscal Year 2002

TO: Regional Administrators
Associate Regional Administrators
FOSS Redesign Workgroup

The purpose of this memorandum is to communicate the expected number of Comparative surveys that will be conducted this fiscal year. As you may remember, the number of Comparatives increased in fiscal year 2001 to at least two per state. We also requested that all Comparatives be conducted at least two weeks to one month after the state agency's certification survey. The less time there is between the two surveys the less likely there will be major changes in the facility's environment, staff and residents. The number of Comparative Surveys required for fiscal year 2002 is not changing from fiscal year 2001. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Dawn Hawkins Johnson of my staff at (410) 786-1117 or dhawkins@cms.hhs.gov

/s/

Steven A. Pelovitz

cc: State Agency Directors